

602-1562

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF)
Hewett et al.) Examiner:
SERIAL NO.: To Be Assigned)
FILED: Herewith)
FOR: IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING)
TO ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT)
OF CAGED ANIMALS)

AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION

Honorable Director of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The present application is the national filing of international application number PCT/GB01/02949. Before calculation of the national filing fee for the United States, it is requested that the application be amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel Claims 1 through 20 of the international application without prejudice, and substitute new claims 21 through 39 as follows:

21. A cage or an item of cage furniture for use by a caged rodent, the cage or item of cage furniture comprising a material which is transparent or translucent to a human observer, but is perceived as being substantially darkened or opaque by the caged rodent.

22. A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, for use by a caged rat or mouse.

23. A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, wherein the cage or item of cage furniture is substantially or entirely formed from a substance which is transparent or translucent to a human observer but substantially darkened or opaque to the caged animal.
24. A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, wherein the cage or item of cage furniture is formed entirely from a synthetic plastics material, preferably by moulding, and preferably as a single component.
25. A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, wherein the material comprising the cage or cage furniture is resistant to repeated autoclaving.
26. A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, comprising polysulfone, polyetherimide, and/or polycarbonate.
27. A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, wherein the cage or item of cage furniture comprises coloured material.
28. A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 27, wherein the cage or item of cage furniture comprises red-coloured or red-tinted material.
29. A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 27, wherein the cage or item of cage furniture comprises a material which transmits less than 20% of visible light with a wavelength of less than 540nm.
30. A cage or item of cage furniture according to claim 27, comprising a material which transmits less than 20% of visible light with a wavelength of less than 560nm.

by a caged rodent, performance of which results in production of a cage or an item of cage furniture in accordance with claim 21.

39. A cage or an item of cage furniture made by the method of claim 37.

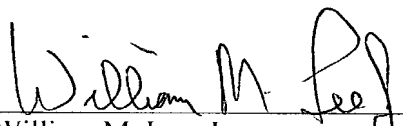
Remarks

The above amendments are being made in order to eliminate multiple dependency and improper multiple dependency before calculation of the application filing fee. Should any multiple dependency remain, that is unintended and the Patent and Trademark Office is requested to cancel any remaining multiple dependent claims without prejudice before calculation of the application filing fee.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 28, 2002



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